Application No.: 09/674,457 Docket No.: HO-P02191US0

Please cancel claims 1-19 without prejudice and without acquiescence.

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 were in the original application as filed. Applicants have canceled claims 1-19 and added claims 20-41 to clarify the scope of the present invention without prejudice or acquiescence. Yet further, support for the microfluidic device and uses thereof can be found throughout the entire Specification, but specifically, support can be found on p. 2, lns. 22-25, p.3, lns. 3-14, 20 and 23, figures 6-8, p. 5 lns. 21-30, p. 6, lns. 8-18, p. 12, lns.

9-10. Applicants assert that no new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have canceled claims 1-19 and added claims 20-41 to clarify the scope of the claims without prejudice or acquiescence.

In addition to the second preliminary amendment, Applicants submit a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes that no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. HO-P02191US0 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: July 25, 2002

Respectfully submitted

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